

2015-2016 VFC & ADULT IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

Flu (Influenza) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Who should get the influenza vaccine?

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends all persons aged 6 months and older receive influenza (flu) vaccine each year.

2. When should we start vaccinating for influenza?

You should begin vaccinating for influenza as soon as you receive your vaccine doses and continue to vaccinate patients throughout the spring. Vaccinate new babies as soon as they turn 6 months of age.

3. Which Flu vaccines will be available through the Nebraska Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program?

Only quadrivalent influenza vaccine is available through the VFC Program. Injectable influenza vaccine will be available in 0.25 mL syringes, 0.5 mL syringes, and multi-dose vials. Also, FluMist nasal sprayer is available.

Brand	Manufacturer	Description	Age Indication	Preservative Free
Fluzone Quadrivalent (IIV4)	Sanofi-Pasteur	0.25 mL single-dose prefilled syringe	6 months through 35 months	Yes (P-Free)
Fluzone Quadrivalent (IIV4)	Sanofi-Pasteur	5 mL multi-dose vial (MDV – 10 doses per vial)	6 months and older	No
Fluarix Quadrivalent (IIV4)	GlaxoSmithKline	0.5 mL single-dose prefilled syringe	3 years and older	Yes (P-Free)
FluMist Quadrivalent (LAIV4)	MedImmune	0.2 mL single-dose prefilled intranasal sprayer	2 years through 49 years (for healthy non-pregnant individuals)	Yes (P-Free)

4. Who is eligible for VFC vaccine?

VFC vaccine is for those aged 18 years and younger who are uninsured, Medicaid eligible, American Indians or Alaskan Natives, or are underinsured. Underinsured children must be served at a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), Rural Health Center (RHC) or a deputized Public Immunization Clinic.

5. Which Flu vaccines will be available through the Nebraska ADULT Immunization Program?

Only quadrivalent influenza vaccine is available through the Adult Immunization Program. Injectable influenza vaccine will be available in 0.5 mL syringes and multi-dose vials.

Brand	Manufacturer	Description	Age Indication	Preservative Free
Fluzone Quadrivalent (IIV4)	Sanofi-Pasteur	0.5 mL single-dose prefilled syringe	3 years and older	Yes (P-Free)
FluLaval Quadrivalent (IIV4)	GlaxoSmithKline	5 mL multi-dose vial (MDV – 10 doses per vial)	3 years and older	No

6. Who is eligible for Adult Immunization Program (AIP) vaccine?

Nebraska Adult Immunization Program vaccine is for those aged 19 years and older who are uninsured or underinsured. Underinsured adults must be served at a Federally Qualified Health Center, Rural Health Center, or a deputized Public Immunization Clinic.

7. When is the flu season?

The flu season begins now. It usually peaks in January or February, but can occur earlier or later. Early immunization is the most effective, but it is not too late to get the vaccine in December, January, or beyond.

8. We have run out of influenza vaccine. Can we borrow flu vaccine from other private stock or other public stock?

No, the Federal Government does not allow borrowing of flu doses between private and other public stock (VFC or Adult). This includes no borrowing from VFC to Adult and Adult to VFC. This is due to the fact that the program may not be able to replace the same type of flu product or replace within the same flu season. To receive more VFC flu vaccine or more Adult Immunization Program vaccine, place an order in NESIIS.

9. How much influenza (flu) vaccine can I order?

In February 2015 VFC & Adult Immunization Program providers pre-booked flu vaccine for the 2015-16 season. The Flu Vaccine Allocation table will be available on the internet at http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/immunization_Influenza.aspx. You can look up your PIN on this table to find out how many doses of each vaccine that your clinic pre-booked. The “Doses Pre-Booked” columns reflect the amount of vaccine that your clinic pre-booked. Unless you pre-booked a very small quantity of flu vaccine, you will not be able to order your entire flu supply at one time. The “Balance Available to Order” columns reflect the amount of vaccine that your clinic may order at this time. This table will be

updated on a regular basis to reflect doses ordered and current vaccine allocations. Vaccine allocation is necessary because the Nebraska Immunization Program receives the flu vaccine in allotments or rounds.

10. What if we are not going to use all of our flu vaccine we have pre-booked?

By January 1, 2016 if you have not ordered all doses of the flu vaccines allocated to your clinic, we will release the rest of your doses which will be placed in a pool and re-distributed.

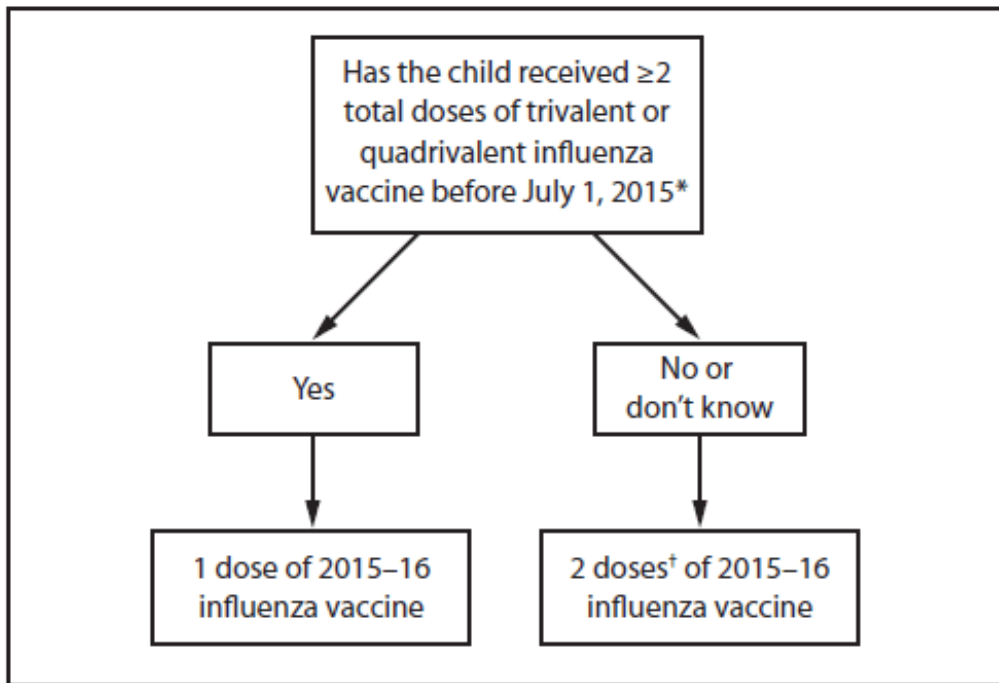
11. Can I get more flu vaccine doses than I pre-booked?

After January 1, 2016 un-allocated doses of flu vaccine will be placed back into a pool and you may request more at that time. There may also be doses available prior to January 1, 2016 so feel free to place your order and orders will be filled if vaccine is available.

12. Do some children need two doses of influenza vaccine?

Yes, children aged 6 months through 8 years who have previously received 2 doses of trivalent or quadrivalent influenza vaccine only require 1 dose of vaccine for 2015-2016. However, if they have NOT received two doses (or don't know) then they need 2 doses of vaccine separated by 4 weeks for the 2015-2016 season. Please refer to the 2015-2016 Influenza Vaccine Dosing Algorithm.

FIGURE 1. Influenza vaccine dosing algorithm for children aged 6 months through 8 years — Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, United States, 2015–16 influenza season



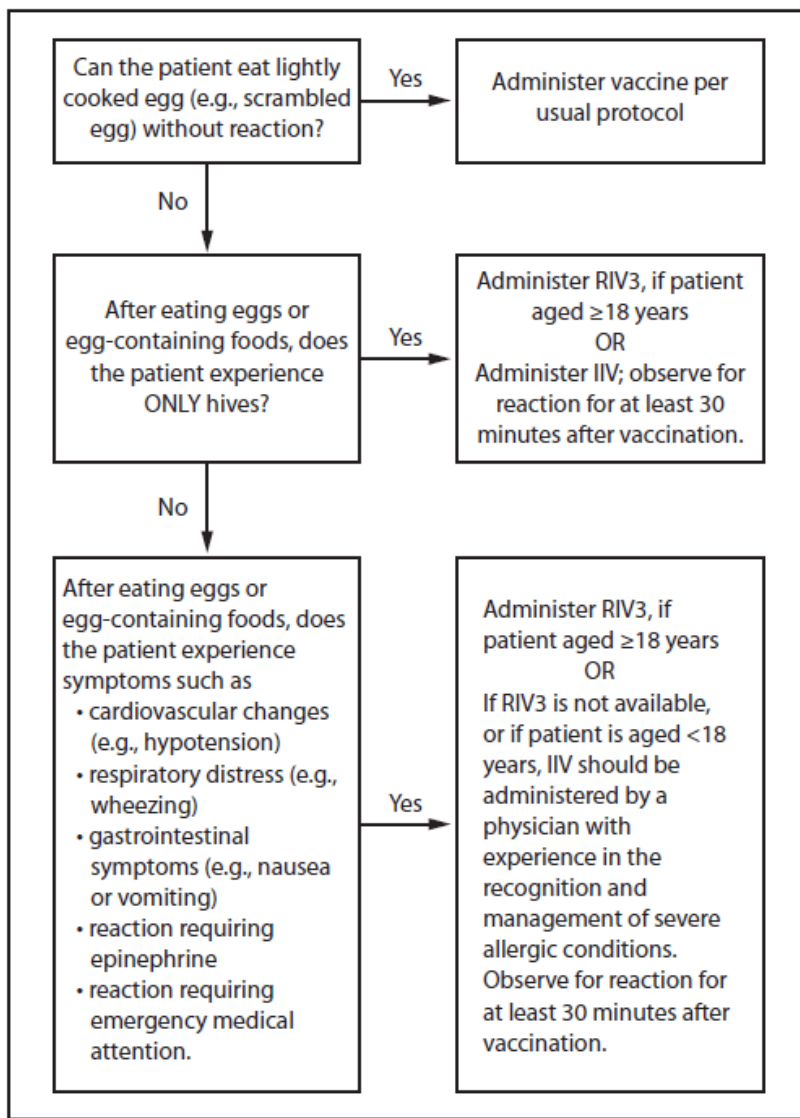
* The two doses need not have been received during the same season or consecutive seasons.

† Doses should be administered ≥4 weeks apart.

13. Can a person with an egg allergy receive influenza vaccine in a public immunization clinic?

Public Immunization Clinics will not be immunizing people with flu vaccine who have egg allergies. Any person who has a health problem which may be a contraindication, who has experienced adverse vaccine reactions, who has a serious disease, who fails to thrive, who does not present needed information, or about whom there is any doubt, should not receive immunizations at the public clinic. In the private clinic setting, it is up to the provider's medical discretion whether a patient should receive the vaccine.

FIGURE 2. Recommendations regarding influenza vaccination of persons who report allergy to eggs*† — Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, United States, 2015–16 influenza season



Abbreviations: IIV = inactivated influenza vaccine, trivalent or quadrivalent; RIV3 = recombinant influenza vaccine, trivalent.

* Persons with egg allergy may tolerate egg in baked products (e.g., bread or cake). Tolerance to egg-containing foods does not exclude the possibility of egg allergy (Erlewyn-Lajeunesse et al., Recommendations for the administration of influenza vaccine in children allergic to egg. *BMJ* 2009;339:b3680).

† For persons who have no known history of exposure to egg, but who are suspected of being egg-allergic on the basis of previously performed allergy testing, consultation with a physician with expertise in the management of allergic conditions should be obtained prior to vaccination. Alternatively, RIV3 may be administered if the recipient is aged ≥18 years.